

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

503 B.1 } 1. A method of calibrating a look-down digital imaging device, said method comprising:

scanning a calibration area within said look-down digital imaging device to capture image data for said calibration area;

5 analyzing said captured image data for said calibration area; and

adjusting the imaging of said look-down digital imaging device based on said analysis of said captured image data for said calibration area.

2. The method of claim 1 further comprising:

focusing on said calibration area.

503 B.1 } 3. The method of claim 2 wherein said focusing further comprises:

folding the optical path of light reflected from said calibration area for said scanning of said calibration area.

4. The method of claim 1 further comprising:

illuminating said calibration area during said scanning step.

5. The method of claim 1 further comprising:

aligning a scan head of said look-down digital imaging device with said calibration area for performing said scanning step.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein said adjusting step comprises at least one adjustment type selected from the group consisting of:

adjusting imaging hardware of said look-down digital imaging device;

adjusting imaging software of said look-down digital imaging device; and

5 adjusting imaging software of a computer device to which said look-down digital imaging device is coupled.

7. A look-down digital imaging device comprising:

calibration area arranged within said look-down digital imaging device, wherein said look-down digital imaging device is operable to scan said calibration area for calibration of said look-down digital imaging device.

8. The look-down digital imaging device of claim 7 further comprising a scan head.

9. The look-down digital imaging device of claim 8 wherein said scan head is movable to align with said calibration area.

10. The look-down digital imaging device of claim 8 wherein said scan head includes:

sensor for imaging an original image placed substantially below said look-down digital imaging device; and

lens for focusing reflected light from said original to said sensor.

11. The look-down digital imaging device of claim 10 wherein said sensor is a linear sensor.

12. The look-down digital imaging device of claim 7 wherein said look-down digital imaging device is operable to achieve an in-focus scan of said calibration area for calibration of said look-down digital imaging device.

13. The look-down digital imaging device of claim 12 wherein the optical path of light reflected from said calibration area during a scan of said calibration area is folded.

15. A system for performing digital imaging comprising:
a look-down digital imaging device that includes means for imaging a target scan area and means for calibrating said look-down digital imaging device.
16. The system of claim 15 wherein said means for imaging includes a high resolution linear sensor.
17. The system of claim 15 wherein said means for calibrating includes a calibration area within said look-down digital imaging device.
18. The system of claim 17 wherein said means for calibrating further includes means for focusing said imaging means on said calibration area.
19. The system of claim 17 wherein said means for calibrating further includes means for folding the optical path of light reflected from said calibration area.
20. The system of claim 15 further comprising a computer device to which said look-down digital imaging device is coupled.